

FIRST WITNESSES CALLED TO STAND

Judge Bolen Follows Substantially His Testimony in Former Trials.

MASSIE'S CHAIR AS EVIDENCE

Sidna Allen and His Wife Both Show Great Strain Upon Them.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
WYTHEVILLE, Va., December 3.—The trial of Sidna Allen for the murder of W. M. Foster in the Hillville tragedy of March 14 last was resumed this morning at 10:30 o'clock, a few minutes later than the hour appointed, the delay occasioned by the judge, jury and attorneys attending the remains of J. B. Bolen to the train. Mr. Bolen, who was killed in the depot yesterday afternoon, as he was about to board the train to return home, after having been excused from service on the jury.

The opening statements being concluded last evening, Judge B. W. Bolen, an attorney of Hillsville, and counsel for Floyd Allen in the case tried at Hillsville, was the first witness for the prosecution. He described in detail the form and size of the courtroom in Hillsville, the surroundings of the court green, the positions of the various parties in the courtroom, and the part taken by each as impressed at the time on his memory. Adhering to his statements in former trials that the first shot came from the northeast corner of the courtroom, and that he saw the ball from this shot strike Judge Massie near the joint of his right shoulder in his breast, that he saw the first shot from the judge's clothing from the impact made, he also stated that the second shot came from near the same point as the first, and that the spray from the shot was in the direction of Judge Massie. That he did not see the third shot, but that the prisoner, retained out of the smoke with a pistol in his hand, and he fired several times at the court officials.

On cross-examination, the witness stated that of the four brothers of Floyd, Sidna, the prisoner, was only one present, and that he was there under process from court, as were the others implicated, except Claude and Friel Allen; that Mrs. Edwards, mother of Sidna, and Wesley Edwards, was present in court at the time of the shooting. The trend of the questions was to refute the theory of the prosecution that there was concerted action.

The chair in which Judge Massie was shot was then introduced, and the witness was asked if he saw the chair opened and the ball found, and asked as to the position of the ball in the place of entrance of the chair in the padding of the back. On re-examination, the witness was asked as to points at which balls struck in the courtroom.

W. D. Tompkins, an attorney of Hillsville, was next called, and his evidence was the same as that in former trials.

C. L. Howell, the foreman of the jury which found Floyd Allen guilty and fixed his punishment at one year in the penitentiary, and C. C. Kane, another member of the jury, gave practically the same evidence as on the other trials.

Frank Fowler, one of the deputies of Sheriff Webb, was next called, and was subjected to a rigid cross-examination, much of it being based upon alleged statements made to other parties soon after the shooting as to Sheriff Webb shooting at Floyd Allen twice. The witness admitted the statements as to some of the parties

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named, and was uncertain as to others, qualifying his admission with the statement that he based his convictions on rumors.

E. C. Gillespie was the next witness, and nothing new was elicited in his examination.

Both the prisoner and his wife show the great strain upon them, the prisoner looking worn and broken. During the examination of Witness Fowler, the prisoner was taken quite sick, and there was a suspension of proceedings for fifteen or twenty minutes, until he recovered from the attack.

JACK OF ALL TRADES.

Senator Ashurst, of Arizona, in Class by Himself.

Washington, December 3.—As a jack of all trades, Senator Henry F. Ashurst, of Arizona, is put in a class by himself by his biography, which is published in the Congressional Directory for the new session, out yesterday.

After recounting that he became a resident of Arizona when three months old and studied business, law and political economy, the biography continued:

"He has pursued the following occupations: Lumberjack, cowboy, clerk and cashier in store, newspaper reporter, hodcarrier and lawyer."

Senator Fall, of New Mexico, whose biography is another new feature of the directory, is also presented as a person of diversified employment. It is stated that he has worked on a farm, cattle ranch and as a miner.

Lightning Strikes Mourners.

Johannesburg, South Africa, December 3.—Lightning struck down seven mourners while they were standing at a graveside in Germiston, in Rhodesia. One of them was killed and five others so severely injured that their lives are despaired of.

FOREIGN RELATIONS SUBJECT OF MESSAGE

President Taft Claims 'Triumphant Vindication of Administration's Diplomacy and Points to Enormous Expansion of American Trade as Result of Its Policy.'

Washington, December 3.—President Taft's first message to the first session of Congress in his term was received with close attention in both branches when legislative business began today. Dealing entirely with foreign relations and America's commercial progress in foreign trade, the message paved the way for others the chief executive will send later dealing with the big questions of legislation and government.

A note of warning to European powers, which by indirect means, continue to discriminate against American trade, a strong appeal to the Congress to split the great foreign policy of America above mere questions of tariff-making, a triumphant vindication of the diplomacy of the administration, which is characterized as that of "dollars versus bullets," a masterful piece in the enormous expansion of American trade as a result of the foreign policy of his administration, and an earnest appeal for joint action by Congress and the executive to open new markets for American industries—these are the more striking features of President Taft's fourth annual message sent to Congress today.

The message is the first of a series of such communications which he will make to Congress in the early days of the session, and deals entirely with the foreign relations of the United States. Beginning with the usual reference to the existing good relations with foreign powers, the President adds that these have been strengthened by a greater insistence upon justice to American citizens, or interests, wherever it may have been needed, and a stronger emphasis of the need of mutually in commercial and other relations.

Most Favored Nation Treatment. For the first time in its history, says the President, the State Department has obtained substantially the most favored nation treatment from all of the countries of the world. Therefore, he says, that it is only natural that competitive countries should view with some concern the expansion of our commerce.

Hence, the warning, taken by them to meet it are not entirely equitable, a remedy should be found.

To this end, the President strongly recommends the enactment of the bill recommended by Secretary Knox last December, permitting the government, instead of imposing the full maximum rates of duty against discriminating countries, to apply a graduated scale of duties, up to that maximum of 35 per cent.

"That tariffs are out of date," says the President. "Nations no longer accord equal tariff treatment to all other nations, irrespective of the treatment from them received."

It is very necessary that the American government should be equipped with weapons of negotiation and adapted to modern economic conditions.

The State Department, "an archaic and inadequate machine," at the beginning of this administration, the President says, has become a new organization, with highly specialized bureaus and experts dealing with every phase of American trade and diplomacy. Holding that the essence of the merit system, which President Cleveland is credited with having introduced, President Taft makes a strong appeal to Congress to make this machine permanent, by giving the force of statutory law to the executive orders governing admission to

the neighborhood of the Panama Canal, and such countries should be relieved of the jeopardy of heavy foreign duties likely to provoke international complications.

The financial rehabilitation of these countries by American bankers, and the protection of their customs houses from being the prey of would-be dictators, says the President, would remove the menace of foreign revolution and revolutionary disorder. Furthermore, the United States would profit largely in a business way through the development of the great natural resources of Central America.

New Neutrality Laws.

Commending the successful results of the application of the new neutrality laws to Mexico and other troubled countries, the President suggests that means be found in addition to prevent the professional revolutionists from making American ports "foci" for revolutionary intrigue. He reiterates his determination to adhere in the case of Mexico to the "patient policy of noninterference, steadfast recognition of constituted authority, and the exertion of every effort to protect American interests."

Other paragraphs of the message point to the increase of American domestic exports by \$50,000,000 during the past year, making the greatest total ever known, \$2,200,000,000; to the agricultural credit system, which he thoroughly endorsed, to the probable necessity of an amendment of the fur seal act to permit limiting killing of seals; to a meeting of the arbitrators in Washington next year to adjust the pecuniary claims between Great Britain and America; to negotiations with Mexico for the distribution of the waters of the Colorado River in the Imperial Valley section, and to the financial rehabilitation of Liberia.

There is merely historical reference to the Chinese revolution; to the San Dominickan trouble, the rebellion in Cuba and the Balkan War developments, in which it is said the United States is not involved.

The message concludes with an earnest appeal to Congress to co-operate with the executive in its efforts to apply the old principles of diplomacy which have governed the country, the momentous new situations of today, when America finds itself at the threshold of her middle age as a nation; "too mature to continue in its foreign relations those temporary expedients natural to a people to whom domestic affairs are the sole concern."

ARRESTED FOR MURDER

Montgomery Man Says He Can Prove

Atlanta, Ga., December 3.—Henry P. Vandiver, of Montgomery, Ala., was arrested here last night on a warrant from Montgomery charging murder. The warrant gave no details of the crime of which the prisoner is accused, and did not give the name of his alleged victim.

Vandiver was arrested in the case of

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News of Petersburg

Times-Dispatch Bureau.
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Petersburg, Va., December 3.

The first meeting of the Sunday School Institute of the Episcopal Church within the bounds of the Petersburg Convocation will be held in Grace Church, in this city, with morning, afternoon and evening sessions. This institute has been formed for the purpose of fostering the work of the Sunday schools throughout the territory which it includes, which is the city of Petersburg and the counties of Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Surry and Sussex. Every Sunday school of the Episcopal Church in this territory has been invited to send delegates to this meeting and to join in the permanent organization. Experts in various departments of Sunday school work in this and other cities will be present and speak.

A permanent organization of the institute, with the election of officers and adoption of by-laws, is scheduled for the morning hour. Among the speakers during the day on questions of vital importance will be B. E. Anderson and W. W. Gillette, of Richmond; Bernard Mann, of Petersburg; Rev. D. W. Howard, of Norfolk; Rev. G. Otis Mead, of Christiansburg, and others. There will be a mass-meeting at night.

INCREASE THE COLLEGES

Plans for Obtaining Necessary Funds Made by Conference.
Anderson, S. C., December 3.—Plans for obtaining \$100,000 to increase facilities of the church colleges in the conference, assignment of pastors to churches the coming year and the selection of Rock Hill, S. C., for the next annual meeting marked yesterday's session here of the 1912 Conference of the South.

Episcopal church, made to the conference by the educational board and adopted by the conference, was to obtain \$100,000 for increasing the plants of Wofford College, Lander College and Columbia College. These institutions made the growth of these institutions made advisable a commissioner of education to prosecute the work of raising the fund and also to supervise the work of the financial agents of the various schools and colleges of the conference was provided for.

Bishop John C. Kilgo announced the appointment of ministers for the coming year. Many changes in pastorates were made.

Odd-Fellows Entertains

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Culpeper, Va., December 3.—Phoenix Lodge, No. 55, Independent Order of Odd-Fellows, gave to-night at the Masonic Hall an elaborate banquet and reception. Speeches were made by Andrew Towell Noble, Major E. L. Slaughter, Major E. H. Gibson, Major T. W. Hooper, Rev. A. J. Harlow, Major T. E. Grimley and Lewis L. White. The Culpeper Mandolin Club rendered several selections, and Mrs. Frank Smith and Irvine Diener sang several songs, being accompanied by Miss Emma Fant on the piano.

Charged With Stealing Whiskey

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Sallsbury, N. C., December 3.—Six negroes were sent up to Superior Court here to-day on the charge of breaking open a whiskey storage warehouse of J. F. Ludwick, in Sallsbury, and stealing a quantity of liquor. The missing liquor was found at the homes of the men arrested. The whiskey had been stored here for several years.

Death of Elderly Citizen

Francis E. Slaughter, aged sixty years, died yesterday afternoon in his home on Byrne Street, after a long illness. His body was taken out to McKenney, in Dinwiddie County, his former home, this morning for burial. He is survived by one son, William Slaughter, and three daughters, Mrs. Viola Royall, Mrs. Myra Best and Mrs. Lucy Chappell, and many friends in this city and Dinwiddie.

Address to Colored People

Dr. E. C. Williams, of the State Board of Health, has consented to address the colored people of Petersburg Friday evening in the Oak Street A. M. E. Zion Church, on "Sanitation." The address will be under the auspices of the Colored Teachers' Co-operative Association, of which Professor J. M. Gandy, of the Virginia Normal and Industrial Institute, is president, and Professor James E. Shields, of the Peabody School, is secretary. This association has done and is doing splendid work in diffusing general sanitation information among the colored people.

The "Empty Stomach Club"

This club, which every year has given so much joy and comfort to the poor children in the community, has organized for the same good work during the coming Christmas season. A committee has been named to secure and receive contributions of all kinds for the little folks, as follows: Mrs. A. G. M. Martin, Mrs. W. L. Venable, Mrs.

WILL Succeed Governor Wilson When He Goes to Washington

Trenton, N. J., December 3.—Democratic State Senators of the next New Jersey Legislature in caucus here today selected Senator James F. Fielder, of Hudson County, as the majority nominee for president of the Senate. Mr. Fielder will succeed Governor Wilson when the latter resigns to go to Washington.

Suicide's Body Found

Charleston, S. C., December 3.—Searchers last night found the body of Joseph M. Thomas, retired jeweler of this city, in the Ashley River, near this city. Temporary aberration of the mind is believed to have caused the man to commit suicide. His overcoat and hat were found near the river and a few hours after he had disappeared.

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